



MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

Staying Safe on the Road

Motorcycle rider death rates in the United States increased by over half from 2001 to 2008. In Arkansas, an average of 52 people a year died in motorcycle crashes from 2000-2007, a rate higher than the rest of country. Stay safe on your motorcycle by following the tips below.

Wear a Helmet

Wearing a helmet gives you the best protection in a crash.

- Riders wearing helmets are a third less likely to die in a crash.
- Wearing a helmet will keep almost three out of four riders in a crash from having a head injury.
- Helmets do not make it harder to see or hear.
- Make sure the helmet is approved by the Department of Transportation (DOT). Helmets will have sticker on the back with the letters "DOT."

Other Safety Tips

- Never ride your motorcycle after drinking alcohol or using drugs.
- Wear protective shoes, gloves and clothing. Protective gear may be the only thing between you and the pavement in a crash.
- Wear bright colors or reflective materials.
- Avoid tailgating and riding between lanes.
- Be aware of the traffic around you. Don't assume other drivers see you.
- Maintain a safe speed.
- Be careful when riding over slippery surfaces or gravel.



Know the Law!

Arkansas Laws:

- Drivers or riders under the age of 21 must wear a helmet.
- Passengers must be 8 years or older.

Laws about cell phone use and driving also apply to motorcycles.

- No texting for all drivers.
- No cell phone use in school and construction zones.



In Cooperation With:

Statewide Injury Prevention Program

(501) 364-3400 or (866) 611-3445 • www.archildrens.org/injury_prevention

Sources: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration